GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:415
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2006
ERADICATION OF DISEASES
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch various programmes on the lines of Pulse Polio campaign in each State of the county, particularly in Jharkhand to eradicate Malaria, Filaria, Kala-Azar and T.B. from the States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(b): The Government of India is implementing comprehensive National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) in the entire country including the State of Jharkhand for prevention and control of vector borne diseases namely Malaria, Filaria, Kala-azar, Japanese Encephalitis(JE) and Dengue. The implementation of the programme is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. The Central Government provides technical guidance and material support by way of providing insecticides, larvicides, anti-malaria, anti-filaria and anti-kala-azar drugs.

For the elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis, annual Mass Drug Administration (MDA) with single dose of Diethylcarbamazine(DEC) is being observed in endemic districts as National Filaria Day since 2004. The National Filaria Day was observed on 5th June, 2004 in 202 filaria endemic districts and on 11th November, 2005 in 243 endemic districts and 80.67% coverage was recorded in 2005 as compared to 72.74% in 2004.

For the elimination of Kala-azar, intensive Kala-azar search & Indoor Residual Spray with DDT (50%) is being carried out in the endemic by States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand & West Bengal.

The strategy for Malaria control includes:

(i) Early diagnosis and prompt treatment;

(ii) Integrated vector management by use of appropriate mix of vector control measures (Indoor Residual Spraying(IRS) in selected pockets, anti-larval measures in urban areas, use of insecticide treated bednets (ITNs), larvivorous fishes and environmental and minor engineering methods;

(iii) Epidemic preparedness and rapid response for initiating epidemic control measures in the event of abnormal increase in malaria cases;

(iv) Behaviour Change Communication for generating awareness & social mobilization through different media including interpersonal communication;

(v) Inter-sectoral collaboration for involvement of non-Health Departments/Civil Society Organizations/Corporate sector/local self-government, Armed & Paramilitary Forces;

(vi) Human Resource Development through capacity building of medical and paramedical personnel/partner organizations by training at primary, secondary & tertiary levels; and

(vii) Monitoring and evaluation through periodic reviews, field visits and web based Management Information System upto District level.

In respect of T.B., it is not possible to launch Programme on the line of pulse polio campaign in the country to eradicate T.B. due to different epidemiological situation pertaining to T.B. However, Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP), widely known as DOTS which is a WHO recommended strategy is being implemented as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme since 1997 in the country in a phased manner with the objective of achieving cure rate of 85% of new sputum positive cases and to detect at least 70% of such cases. Project districts have reported treatment success rate of more than 85% which means that more than 8 out of every 10 patients put on treatment under the revised strategy are being successfully treated as against below 4 in the earlier Programme. Till date, the RNTCP has placed more than 53 lac patients on treatment thus averting more than 9.5 lac deaths. By January 2006, 1083 million (97%) of the population in 618 districts/reporting units is getting benefited by DOTS strategy. Only 16 districts are yet to

implement RNTCP. These are in the final stages of preparation and the entire country will be covered under RNTCP in the financial year 2005-06.

As per the report of the 3rd Quarter 2005, performance under RNTCP in the State of Jharkhand, annualized case detection rate at present is 107/lakh population as against target of 137/lakh population, new sputum positive case detection rate is 39/lakh as against target of 53/lakh and cure rate of new sputum positive cases is 87% against the national target of 85%.